



**International Co-operative
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Dear readers,

Greetings!

Every year, the days seem to pass more and more quickly; already summer is coming to a close in the northern hemisphere, winter in the southern. Only a few weeks remain before the 2014 ICAO General Meeting and IYFF Conference, to be held in Bali, Indonesia September 17~18, in conjunction with the ICA AP Regional Assembly.

It is somewhat fitting that, during this time of transition, of change, our General Meeting will address a mid-term strategic plan for the organization, drafted by the secretariat and reviewed by the Executive Committee ICAO. This strategic plan would make use of the momentum given the cooperative movement generally and agricultural cooperatives specifically by increasing international recognition of their importance in the attainment of economic sustainability and food security. Focusing initially on regionalization under the leadership of our Executive Committee members, then globalization via collaboration with FAO and other international organizations, it would support members in their development, fortify the membership and promote the agricultural cooperative business model.

And then there is the FAO/ICAO conference on the IYFF. Much of the International Year of Family Farming has come and gone. More remains, however. In Bali, we will discuss strategies for the latter half of the IYFF, the agricultural cooperative business model and family farmers. There will be speakers from FAO and AgriCord, and members will share their best practices.

These promise to be important and interesting events, and I hope to see and hear from many of you in Bali. Safe travels!

CHOI, WON BYUNG
President, ICAO



NACF Publishes Pork Farm Manuals in Multiple Asian Languages

The National Agricultural Cooperative Federation in Korea has published bilingual pig farm manuals in 5 Asian languages: Vietnamese, Cambodian, Thai, Mongolian, and Nepalese. These manuals are printed and distributed nationwide to educate foreign farm workers in pork farm techniques, from breeding to rearing, via their native languages. Designed to facilitate the foreign workers' education as well as communication between them and their Korean employers, each volume is written in both Korean and one of the above languages and features many pictures and illustrations. NACF hopes to expand the series with more languages and share advanced pork farm techniques with farmers outside of Korea.



The manuals are also available as PDFs on the ICAO website

(www.icao.coop).

Soon-to-be New Member : Tarim Koop from Turkey



The Central Union of Agricultural Co-operatives in Turkey, Tarim Koop, applied for ICAO membership in August 2014. It is a member of the National Co-operative Union of Turkey (NCUT). NCUT is a member of ICA and via that membership Tarim Koop is eligible to apply for ICAO membership.

Founded in 2012 and headquartered in Ankara, Tarim Koop is the apex organisation for agriculture cooperatives in Turkey. Member cooperatives are involved in dairy, crop production, processing and marketing. Tarim Koop has 15 regional unions, 1,080 primary cooperatives and 141,750 members.

Tarim Koop's application for ICAO membership will be processed at the ICAO Executive Meeting in September; its approval will be officially announced during the ICAO General Meeting in Bali, Indonesia.



My.COOP- Managing Your Agricultural Co-operative



The International Labor Office (ILO) announced that its online co-operative training program, My.COOP, will provide the Training of Trainers distance-learning programme in English, French and Spanish for the first time. My.COOP is a training package and programme on the management of agricultural cooperatives. Proper management enables cooperatives to offer high quality, efficient and effective services to their members. Moreover, well-managed agricultural cooperatives can also contribute to wider development issues such as food security, sustainable use of natural resources and inclusive employment creation.

The My.COOP Training of Trainers has been designed for organizations and individuals that train managers of agricultural cooperatives. These can include:

- leaders and managers of cooperative structures, such as unions, federations and confederations;
- trainers working in cooperative colleges, universities, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and other

(including private training providers);
- cooperative officers and extension staff of government departments and agencies.

Online applications may be completed at the following links:

- English: http://intranetp.itcilo.org/MINRFFUND?coord_code=A977032&set_language=en
- Spanish: <http://intranetp.itcilo.org/MIF/A977032/es>
- French: http://intranetp.itcilo.org/MINRFFUND?coord_code=A977032&set_language=fr

The programme will be available from 22 September to 13 December this year at www.agriculture-my.coop.
For further information, please contact mycoop@itcilo.org

Issues on Agriculture



2015 INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF SOILS



2015 has been designated as the International Year of Soils by the United Nations at the request of the Kingdom of Thailand in the framework of the Global Soil Partnership.

The IYS 2015 aims to increase awareness and understanding of the importance of soil for food security and essential ecosystem functions.

The specific objectives of the IYS 2015 are:

- Raise full awareness among civil society and decision makers about the profound importance of soil for human life;
- Educate the public about the crucial role soil plays in food security, climate change adaptation and mitigation, essential ecosystem services, poverty alleviation and sustainable development;
- Support effective policies and actions for the sustainable management and protection of soil resources;
- Promote investment in sustainable soil management activities to develop and maintain healthy soils for different land users and population groups;
- Strengthen initiatives in connection with the SDG process (Sustainable Development Goals) and Post-2015 agenda;
- Advocate for rapid capacity enhancement for soil information collection and monitoring at all levels (global, regional and national).

Upcoming Events



ICAO General Meeting

5:30 pm~ 7:00 pm, 17, September

Nusantara Room 1, Bali International Convention Center, Bali, Indonesia

(For further information, please contact the secretariat nacfico@nonghyup.com)

2014 ICA Meeting of Members

5 October 2014, Quebec City, Canada

2014 International Summit of Cooperatives, Quebec

6~9 October 2014, Quebec City, Canada

www.summit.coop

From the Desk



This year we will have our General Meeting in Bali, Indonesia, in conjunction with the ICA Asia-Pacific Regional Assembly. We expect many members from the Asia Region to join us. We strongly encourage members from other regions to join us there also. If you are not able to attend, please check out the ICAO Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/internationalagricoop>) or follow ICAO on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/farmersICAO>) for up-to-date information on both the General Meeting and our IYFF conference. We are looking forward to seeing you soon in Bali!

The ICAO Newsletter is published by the ICAO Secretariat. If you would like to share stories, upcoming events or other co-operative news from your part of the world, please contact us via email nacfico@nonghyup.com or the ICAO's Facebook page. Newsletters are also available from our website www.icao.coop



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